

The Light of The World

MAIN THING

No matter how powerful the darkness is, light wins every time

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:16-18, John 3:19, Matthew 5:14

ICEBREAKER

My dream job when I was a kid was

OPENING THOUGHT

Jesus refers to Himself as the Light of The World. Light has a way of revealing what has been hidden previously- what looks okay in the dark looks very different when exposed to the light. Because Jesus is light, He states that there is nothing hidden that won't be revealed. He sees it all and illuminates it all. What we think will stay hidden will be revealed to all. He says this both as a warning and as an encouragement.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was the one thing that you heard this past Sunday that stuck out to you? Why did it resonate with you like it did?

2. This entire year we have been talking about the one law no one has ever broken- the law of sowing and reaping. Jesus indicates in this passage that the things we do will be brought out into the light, so we need to make sure we are sowing what we hope to reap. What are your thoughts on the three rules of life, and when have you seen them come true in your life?

3. The four stages of temptation are based on the fact that we think what we do won't be seen. When you realize that everything will be revealed, how does that change our thoughts and behavior on temptation?

LIFE APPLICATION

This past week the church leader world was rocked by the news that Reggie Joiner, founder and leader of Orange Ministries (we've used the Orange curriculum here at Catalyst- it is excellent) had to resign due to an "inappropriate relationship" with a female colleague- both married with children, both leaders in the family ministry industry. This has been a painful example to the church and to the world about the truth of Jesus' words- everything that is hidden WILL be revealed. It's only a matter of time. We truly can't get away with anything. When that light reveals everything, what we have planted, we will reap. We will either be blessed or cursed with the decisions we've made and the actions we have taken. The wise person will consider carefully what he or she is sowing, because the day of reaping is fast approaching.

CHALLENGE

If you are making big life decisions right now, how can your community group help you plant the right things so that you will reap the blessings of that decision and avoid the consequences of a bad decision?